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170 72 Solna (SE)(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in  
accordance with Art. 76 EPC:  
98201555.4 / 0 877 130  
94915725.9 / 0 698 162(74) Representative: Givér, Sören Bo  
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200 71 Malmö (SE)(60) Divisional application:  
99203328.2 / 0 969 164

## (54) An edge lock for use in a flooring system

(57) The invention relates to a system for laying and mechanically joining building panels, especially thin, hard, floating floors. Adjacent joint edges (3, 4) of two panels (1, 2) engage each other to provide a first mechanical connection locking the joint edges (3, 4) in a first direction (D1) perpendicular to the principal plane of the panels. In each joint, there is further provided a strip (6) which is integrated with one joint edge (3) and which projects behind the other joint edge (4). The strip (6) has an upwardly protruding locking element (8) engaging in a locking groove (14) in the rear side (16) of the other joint edge (4) to form a second mechanical connection locking the panels (1, 2) in a second direction (D2) parallel to the principal plane of the panels and at right angles to the joint. Both the first and the second mechanical connection allow mutual displacement of joined panels (1, 2) in the direction of the joint.

Fig. 3c

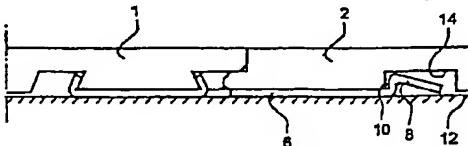
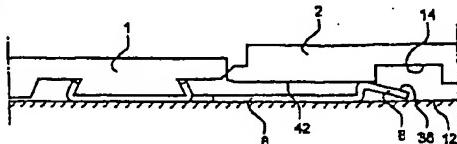


Fig. 3a



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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 99 20 2903

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TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.CI.8)			
E04F A47G			
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
THE HAGUE	16 December 1999	AYITER, J	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background C : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			
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 The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
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16-12-1999

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